

AMENDED IN SENATE AUGUST 7, 2006

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 29, 2006

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 15, 2006

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 21, 2005

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 26, 2005

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 2, 2005

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 4, 2005

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2005–06 REGULAR SESSION

## ASSEMBLY BILL

**No. 31**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Parra**  
**(Principal coauthor: Assembly Member McCarthy)**  
**(Coauthors: Assembly Members Aghazarian, Arambula, Cogdill,**  
**Matthews, and Villines)**

December 6, 2004

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An act to add and repeal Chapter 12.9 (commencing with Section 7095) of Division 7 of Title 1 of the Government Code, relating to economic development, *and declaring the urgency thereof, to take effect immediately.*

### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 31, as amended, Parra. ~~Interagency~~ *California* Partnership for the ~~Economic Development of the Central~~ San Joaquin Valley.

Existing law authorizes 2 or more public agencies, including any federal department, state or local agency to enter into an agreement for the purpose of exercising any power common to the contracting

parties for specified purposes, including, among other things, acquiring or constructing specified public facilities and improvements.

This bill would, until January 1, 2012, create the ~~Interagency~~ *California Partnership for the Economic Development of the Central San Joaquin Valley*, composed of the heads of specified state agencies and departments, local government members and private sector members, to coordinate and improve existing state and federal efforts for the valley, in concert with locally led efforts, in order to increase the living standards and the overall economic performance of the valley.

The bill would require the partnership to request that the 8 economic development coordinators of the Counties of Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, and Tulare serve as ~~a subcommittee~~ *an advisory committee* to of the partnership and make a specified report to the partnership and the Legislature by no later than June 1, 2007 *and annually thereafter*.

The bill would also require the partnership to meet at least quarterly and to implement a strategic action plan developed by the partnership. The bill would require the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency to create a Web page for the partnership, as specified.

*This bill would declare that it is to take effect immediately as an urgency statute.*

Vote: ~~majority~~<sup>2/3</sup>. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1     SECTION 1. The Legislature hereby finds and declares all of  
2     the following:  
3     (a) The San Joaquin Valley is a region rich in resources and  
4     important to California's heritage, economy, environment, and  
5     identity. It is one of the most productive agricultural regions in  
6     the world—home to farmlands that feed the nation and the world.  
7     It encompasses three world-class national parks that preserve the  
8     natural beauty of the valley and the mountains that bound it. The  
9     San Joaquin Valley is intersected by a transportation corridor that  
10    is critical to the state's interstate commerce. Its people are  
11    hardworking and representative of many cultures, races, and  
12    nationalities.

(b) The eight counties and the many communities that form the San Joaquin Valley enjoy assets that set the region apart from the rest of the state, but the valley’s unique geography, climate, and economy also pose specific challenges for the region that demand the attention of government leaders at the state, local, and federal levels.

(c) The region’s population is growing much faster than the state average. By nearly every indicator, the economic well-being of the residents of the valley lags behind state and national averages. More than one in five San Joaquin Valley residents lives in poverty. The region’s median household income is approximately \$12,000 lower than the statewide median. Yet, because of past neglect, the San Joaquin Valley receives substantially less per capita funding than both the United States and state averages.

(d) The region is also one of only two regions in the nation to be identified by the United States Environmental Protection Agency as an “extreme non-attainment” zone for repeatedly failing to meet air quality standards.

(e) The strength of California is tied to the economic success of the San Joaquin Valley. Improving the economy and the well-being of the people of the San Joaquin Valley requires a concerted, coordinated, and creative response from leaders at all levels of government and from community members.

SEC. 2. Chapter 12.9 (commencing with Section 7095) is added to Division 7 of Title 1 of the Government Code, to read:

CHAPTER 12.9. ~~INTERAGENCY PARTNERSHIP FOR THE~~  
~~ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE CENTRAL~~ *THE CALIFORNIA*  
*PARTNERSHIP FOR THE SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY*

7095. (a) ~~The Interagency Partnership for the Economic Development of the Central California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley~~ is hereby created in state government.

(b) The purpose of the partnership is to coordinate and improve existing state and federal efforts for the San Joaquin Valley, in concert with locally led efforts, in order to increase the living standards and the overall economic performance of the valley. Economic development efforts shall include consideration of the preservation or enhancement of the natural environment

1 and natural resources of the valley. The partnership shall consist  
2 of all of the following:

3 ~~(1) Eight local government members to be appointed by the~~  
4 ~~Governor and the Legislature from a list of three elected officials~~  
5 ~~submitted by each of the eight Councils of Government from the~~  
6 ~~following counties: San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Merced, Madera,~~  
7 ~~Fresno, Kings, Tulare, and Kern.~~

8 ~~(2) Eight private sector members to be appointed by the~~  
9 ~~Governor and the Legislature.~~

10 *(1) Eight elected local government members from a list of*  
11 *three elected officials submitted by each of the eight Councils of*  
12 *Government from the following counties: San Joaquin,*  
13 *Stanislaus, Merced, Madera, Fresno, Kings, Tulare, and Kern.*  
14 *The Speaker of the Assembly shall appoint one member from*  
15 *each of this list from the following counties: San Joaquin,*  
16 *Stanislaus, Merced, and Madera. The Senate Committee on Rules*  
17 *shall appoint one member from each of this list from the*  
18 *following counties: Fresno, Kings, Tulare, and Kern. The Senate*  
19 *Committee on Rules shall designate one of the eight members to*  
20 *be deputy co-chair of the partnership.*

21 *(2) Eight private sector members, with one appointed by the*  
22 *Speaker of the Assembly from each of the following counties:*  
23 *Fresno, Kings, Tulare, and Kern; and one appointed by the*  
24 *Senate Committee on Rules from each of the following counties:*  
25 *San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Merced, and Madera. The Speaker of*  
26 *the Assembly shall designate one of the eight members to be*  
27 *deputy co-chair of the partnership.*

28 (3) The following state officials:

29 (A) The Secretary of Business, Transportation and Housing,  
30 who shall serve as chairperson.

31 (B) The Secretary of Labor and Workforce Development.

32 (C) The Secretary for Environmental Protection.

33 (D) The Secretary of Food and Agriculture.

34 (E) The Secretary of State and Consumer Services.

35 (F) The Secretary for Education.

36 (G) The Secretary of the Resources Agency.

37 (H) The Secretary of California Health and Human Services.

38 ~~(4) One local government representative to be appointed by~~  
39 ~~the Senate Committee on Rules.~~

1 ~~(5) One private sector representative to be appointed by the~~  
2 ~~Speaker of the Assembly.~~

3 (c) Each member shall serve at the pleasure of his or her  
4 appointing entity.

5 (d) The partnership shall meet at least once quarterly for the  
6 conduct of its business. It may also host town hall meetings in the  
7 valley in addition to, or in conjunction with, its quarterly  
8 meetings.

9 (e) Duties of the partnership shall include all of the following:

10 (1) Analyze programs and policies of partnership member  
11 agencies that relate to the valley to determine what changes,  
12 modifications, and innovations should be considered, if any.

13 (2) Consider statistical and data analysis, research, and policy  
14 studies related to the valley.

15 (3) Develop, recommend, and implement short-term and  
16 long-term options for promoting sustainable economic  
17 development.

18 (4) Consult and coordinate activities with federal, state, tribal,  
19 and local governments, community leaders, Members of  
20 Congress, the private sector, and other interested parties, paying  
21 particular attention to maintaining existing authorities of the  
22 state, the tribes, and local governments, and preserving their  
23 existing working relationships with other agencies, organizations,  
24 or individuals.

25 (5) Coordinate and collaborate on research and demonstration  
26 priorities of partnership member agencies related to the valley.

27 (6) Integrate state and federal initiatives and programs into the  
28 design of sustainable economic development actions for the  
29 valley.

30 (7) Focus initial efforts on pilot communities for implementing  
31 a coordinated and expedited state and federal response to local  
32 economic development and other needs.

33 (8) Identify projects and programs that will best utilize public  
34 dollars and most quickly improve the economic vitality of the  
35 valley, especially those that leverage federal, state, local, and  
36 private sector resources in a coordinated effort to address critical  
37 needs in the valley.

38 (9) Work with members of the state's congressional delegation  
39 and federal officials, including the federal Task Force for the  
40 Economic Recovery of the San Joaquin Valley, to gain federal

1 support for projects identified by the partnership as critical to the  
2 region.

3 (10) Partner with the University of California, the California  
4 State University, the California Community Colleges, and the  
5 state's other research and educational institutions, as well as  
6 private foundations, to provide guidance, advice, and  
7 encouragement in support of studies of particular interest and  
8 importance to the valley.

9 (11) Review state policies and regulations to ensure they are  
10 fair and appropriate for the state's diverse geographic regions,  
11 including the San Joaquin Valley, and determine whether  
12 alternative approaches can accomplish goals in less costly ways.

13 (12) Recommend to the Governor *and the Legislature* changes  
14 that would improve the economic well-being of the valley and  
15 the quality of life of its residents.

16 (13) Implement the San Joaquin Valley Strategic Action  
17 Proposal developed by the partnership.

18 (f) The partnership shall request that the ~~eight locally~~  
19 ~~designated economic development coordinators~~ *economic*  
20 *development coordinator from each* of the Counties of Fresno,  
21 Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, and  
22 Tulare serve as ~~a subcommittee of an advisory committee~~ to the  
23 partnership and submit ~~a an initial~~ report to the partnership and  
24 the Legislature on or before June 1, 2007, *and annually by June*  
25 *1 thereafter* to do all of the following:

26 (1) Provide background information on the current economic  
27 status of each county.

28 (2) Outline the economic needs of each county, including, but  
29 not limited to, indicators such as unemployment rate growth and  
30 per capita income.

31 ~~(3) Prioritize the needs of the region as a whole.~~

32 ~~(4)~~

33 (3) Provide options and recommendations for the economic  
34 development of each county, and the region as a whole.

35 7095.1. The Business, Transportation and Housing Agency  
36 shall provide administrative support to the partnership out of  
37 existing resources. The Director of Finance may accept monetary  
38 gifts for the support of the activities of the partnership.

39 7095.2. The Business, Transportation and Housing Agency  
40 shall create a Web page for the partnership with a link from their

1 main page to provide the public with information about their  
2 meetings and their interaction with the partnership.

3 7095.3. This chapter shall remain in effect only until January  
4 1, 2012, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted  
5 statute, that is enacted before January 1, 2012, deletes or extends  
6 that date.

7 *SEC. 3. This act is an urgency statute necessary for the*  
8 *immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety*  
9 *within the meaning of Article IV of the Constitution and shall go*  
10 *into immediate effect. The facts constituting the necessity are:*

11 *In order that the California Partnership for the San Joaquin*  
12 *Valley established pursuant to Section 2 of this act may begin its*  
13 *activities for improving the economic development of the San*  
14 *Joaquin Valley at the earliest possible time, it is necessary for*  
15 *this act to take effect immediately.*